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Spiritual Reading List

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VOL. 17, NO. 5

FEBRUARY, 1946



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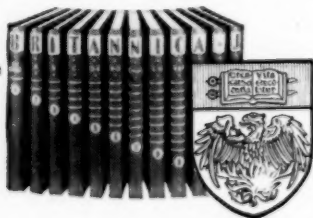
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# An Annotated Spiritual Reading List<sup>1</sup>

Compiled by REVEREND ALOYSIUS J. MILLER, S.J.,  
Librarian, University of Scranton, and  
REVEREND WILLIAM J. GIBBONS, S.J.,  
Associate Editor of *America*

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This is a selected list of spiritual reading books which look to the higher religious formation of the spiritual life of Catholics. It is a selection from and a revision of a longer list published over a year ago in mimeograph form by the Scranton Institute for Religious. The former list was so well received that a definite need for book selection in this field was indicated. The Institute's list was too long for publication in the *Catholic Library World* and carried symbolic annotations, more helpful to the director or superior than to the general reader. After having circulated the list among those interested and experienced in this field, the following titles have been selected in the light of the criticism received. A brief descriptive annotation of each book has been substituted for the symbols and an indication of the level of the book or the reader to whom it would appeal is mentioned where necessary.

Every Catholic institution has attached to it a Spiritual Reading Library. This list has been compiled to call attention to some of the masterpieces that readers should look for there. Because of the St. Meinrad lists,<sup>2</sup> no cognizance has been taken of books that would have an especial appeal to priests. The Editors have

hopes of greatly enlarging the list and perhaps publishing it at a later date in pamphlet form. They invite criticism of titles entered herein, and would appreciate hearing of any significant omissions of which they have been guilty.

## 1. TECHNICAL BOOKS

The books contained in this first section are referred to as "technical", by which is meant that they treat of the spiritual life in a more or less scientific manner. Viewed in this light the spiritual life, or spiritual theology, as it is sometimes called, is a department or branch of the theological sciences. It includes the history of spirituality, the systematic study of the spiritual life, and a critical examination and appraisal of individual works and authors. While such knowledge is not essential for a living of the perfect Christian life, it is decidedly helpful for all who have sufficient educational background. For those dealing with the spiritual formation of others, scientific knowledge is by no means a luxury; it is a necessity, without which many mistakes will be made.

Apart from three books which were inserted because of their importance for reference purposes by those who read Latin, the selection of titles has been deliberately, though regretfully, confined to English.

1. Copyright, 1946, University of Scranton Library.

2. *Seminarian's Reading List: Minor Seminary*. St. Meinrad Seminary, St. Meinrad, Ind. 1938. 31p. *Major Seminary*. rev. ed. 1945. 31p.

Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, Father (O.D.C.). *St. John of the Cross, Doctor of Divine Love*; translated by the Benedictines of Stanbrook Abbey. London, Thomas Baker, 1940. xii, 121p. 5/6.

A synopsis of the teaching of the Mystical Doctor and a helpful introduction to his works. The appendix discusses the distinction drawn between acquired and infused contemplation and the extent of the call to the latter. A synthesis of various views is attempted.

Garrigou-Langrange, Reginald (O.P.), 1877-. *Christian perfection and contemplation according to St. Thomas and St. John of the Cross*; translated by Sister M. Timothea Doyle, O.P. Herder, 1937. xviii, 470p. \$3.50.

Traditional Catholic doctrine on contemplation is studied in the light of the Church's teaching on grace and the virtues, as interpreted in the Thomistic synthesis. The chapters on efficacious grace should not prejudice the reader against the rest of this monumental work.

Goodier, Alban (S.J.), 1869-1939. *Introduction to the study of ascetical and mystical theology*. Benziger, 1938. x, 209p. \$2.75.

These published notes of seventeen lectures given to students offer a brief and introductory survey of the doctrinal and historical aspects of spirituality.

Guibert, Joseph de (S.J.). *Documenta ecclesiastica Christianae perfectionis studium spectantia*. Rome, Gregorian University, 1931. xv, 562p.

An indispensable sourcebook, in Latin, for students of the spiritual life. It gives the full text or excerpts from pontifical decrees and pronouncements touching on spiritual doctrine and practice.

Guibert, Joseph de (S.J.). *Theologia spiritualis ascetica et mystica*. Rome, Gregorian University, 1937. xii, 496p. (Revised edition. Herder, 1939. \$2.75.)

Outstanding treatise on questions concerning the spiritual life, with an historical survey of authors and works. This Latin text is designed primarily for theological students.

Heerinx, James (O.F.M.). *Introductio in theologiam spiritualem asceticam et mysticam*. Turin and Rome, Marietti, 1931. xvi, 355p. (Revised edition, 1939.)

This combination introduction and methodology text relates the development of spirituality as a scientific study, surveys the field, delineates problems and evaluates the outstanding literature and periodicals.

Parente, Pascal P. *The ascetical life*. Herder, 1944. viii, 271p. \$2.50.

Brief, clear exposition of the nature and basic principles of Christian spirituality, avoiding, as far as possible, controverted questions. There is an eleven-page bibliography of ascetical works. For general reading as well as study.

Pourrat, Pierre (S.S.), 1871-1938. *Christian spirituality*. Kenedy, 1922-28. 3v., 312, 341, 405p. \$2.75 per vol.

A history of spiritual doctrine and practice from the time of our Lord down to, and including, Jansenism. The scientific treatment is not without devotion. An important work for all who wish to read spiritual authors with an understanding of their background.

Tanqueray, Adolphe (S.S.), 1854-1932. *The spiritual life; a treatise on ascetical and mystical theology*. rev. ed. Tournai, Society of St. John the Evangelist, Desclée et Cie, 1932. (St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore.) xlviii, 750, 21p. \$2.75.

This comprehensive manual is, all things considered, perhaps the most satisfactory to date. It is divided into two parts: the first giving the doctrinal principles upon which the interior life is based; the second treating of the development of the soul in the three ways. The extensive bibliography adds reference value.

Townsend, Anselm (O.P.), 1901- translator. *Dominican spirituality*. Bruce, 1934. ix, 134p. \$1.25.

Essays from the French, by five Dominicans, on the origin, development and characteristics of that approach to the spiritual life sometimes referred to as Dominican. Helpful for a better understanding of some outstanding Catholic writers.

Vermeersch, Arthur (S.J.), 1858-1936. *Religious and ecclesiastical vocation*; translated by Joseph G. Kempf. Herder, 1925. v, 90p. \$0.90.

Brief but authoritative exposition of the Catholic tradition on the nature of vocation. The Church's requirements according to Canon Law are explained.

Vernet, Felix. *Medieval spirituality*; translated by the Benedictines of Talacre. Herder, 1930. 237p. \$1.00.

Summarizes the teaching of the spiritual writers of the Middle Ages and tells of their writings. Historical in purpose.

## 2. PRAYER

Most books on prayer—as distinguished from meditation and devotion manuals and prayerbooks—are more or less scientific in the treatment. They tell us how

we should pray, the kinds and degrees of prayer, and what obstacles must be removed to permit greater progress and fuller surrender to the action of grace. Some of the books mentioned below are really treatises on prayer as a special and very important division of spiritual theology. The majority, however, are popular manuals designed to assist those eager to make progress. On this subject there are so many different approaches taken by various authors, and so many varied opinions, particularly on the degrees of prayer and the call to contemplation, that there is no such thing as a single, completely satisfactory manual on the subject. Some books, moreover, are designed for beginners, others for those making progress. Still others come down to us from ages or periods when exaggerations or errors in one direction led writers to react quite strongly against them. For those who have made some progress and have the educational background the only safe norm is that they should read with discernment, under direction if possible, and sufficiently widely as to get at the riches of the full Catholic tradition.

Besse, Ludovic de (O.S.F.S.). *Science of prayer*. Benziger, 1925. x, 189p. \$2.00.

Non-technical exposition of the degrees of prayer, with special attention to contemplation. Many references are made to Sts. John of the Cross, Teresa, Francis de Sales and Jane Frances de Chantal. Helpful direction is given for those experiencing prolonged aridity.

Boylan, Eugene (O.Cist.). *Difficulties in mental prayer*. 2d ed. Dublin, M. H. Gill, 1944. xiv, 130p. 5s.

The average reader will draw profit from reading these pointed answers to common difficulties in prayer. Spiritual and psychological insight are manifest in the constructive advice.

Caussade, Jean Pierre de (S.J.), 1675-1751. *Progress in prayer*; translated from *Instructions spirituelles*, by L. V. Sheehan; adapted and edited by Joseph McSorley, C.S.P. Herder, 1904. 178p. \$0.75.

This very readable adaptation of the second part of *On Prayer* gives practical suggestions for removing obstacles to progress in contemplation.

Chautard, Jean Baptiste (O.C.R.) *Soul of the apostolate*; translated by J. A. Moran, S.M. Dublin, M. H. Gill, 1926. xi, 266p.

(American edition: Abbey of Gethsemani, Trappist, Kentucky, 1941. xii, 282p. \$1.25.)

Emphasizes the need of a solid interior life, nourished by prayer, for all engaged in the apostolate. It is directed especially to beginners.

Fenton, Joseph Clifford, 1906. *Theology of prayer*. Bruce, 1939. xii, 257p. \$2.25.

Summary presentation of the theological truths involved in the art and act of prayer. The viewpoint is Thomistic, the treatment more technical than devotional.

Goodier, Alban (S.J.), 1869-1939. *St. Ignatius Loyola and prayer, as seen in the book of the Spiritual Exercises*. Benziger, 1940. 200p. \$2.75.

These notes on the Annotations and the first two meditations of the Exercises show Ignatius as no opponent of traditional teaching on prayer. The use of terms, however, may be at times confusing to those unfamiliar with the subject, and the work is unfortunately incomplete. The most satisfactory parts are those on the discernment of spirits.

Grou, Jean Nicolas (S.J.), 1731-1803. *How to pray*; translated by Teresa Fitzgerald; edited by R. F. Clarke, S.J. Benziger, 1919. 204p. o. p.

A part of the larger work, *The School of Jesus Christ*, this treatise deals with fundamentals and is suitable for beginners.

Leen, Edward (C.S.Sp.). 1885-1945. *Progress through mental prayer*. Sheed, 1935. x, 276p. \$2.75.

After laying down the principles, it explains the effect of progress on method and then outlines the virtues which are the conditions of successful prayer. Practical advice is offered those advancing in the spiritual life.

McSorley, Joseph (C.S.P.), 1874-. *Primer of prayer*. Longmans, 1934. viii, 120p. \$1.00.

Beginners particularly will find here a concise explanation of the three types of prayer—vocal, discursive and contemplative—along with suggestions on progress and hindrances.

Maumigny, René de (S.J.). *Practice of mental prayer*; translation revised by

Elder Mullan, S.J. Kenedy, 1915. 2v. \$1.25 per vol.

Volume one is a practical treatise on mental prayer in its more common forms and is suitable for general use. Volume two has for its sub-title "Extraordinary prayer" and deals with the mystical states.

Moore, Thomas Verner (O.S.B.), 1877-Prayer. Herder, 1931. (Newman Book Shop, 1943.) vi, 219p. \$1.75.

A series of addresses and papers on varied aspects of prayer, largely the outgrowth of instructions given to Oblates of St. Benedict.

Plus, Raoul (S.J.), 1882-. *How to pray always; principles for attaining to union with God*; translated by Irene Hernaman. London, Burns, Oates and Washbourne, 1942. 99p. 4/6.

Simple reflections on how we can live constantly in the state of prayer by often raising our hearts and minds to God. Treatment is popular.

Plus, Raoul (S.J.), 1882-. *How to pray well*. Benziger, 1929. viii, 133p. \$1.60.

This companion volume to *How to Pray Always* aims at improving our prayer by recalling the motives which should inspire it and by outlining the principles upon which our relations with God are based.

Poulain, Auguste (S.J.), 1836. *Graces of interior prayer, a treatise on mystical theology*; translated by Leonora L. Yorke Smith, with a preface by D. Considine, S.J. Herder, 1910. xxiv, 637p. \$4.50.

Descriptive presentation of the states of mystical prayer, with additional chapters on extraordinary phenomena, praeternatural, natural and diabolical. Quotations from writings of the mystics are plentiful. This technical work, helpful for students and directors of souls, leans heavily on positive data without always giving the desired integration. It should be studied in conjunction with more doctrinal treatments, such as those of Sts. Francis de Sales and John of the Cross, and in modern times, Garrigou-Lagrange.

Ponte, Louis de la (S.J.), 1554-1624. *Of familiar intercourse with God in prayer*; translated by a Benedictine. Benziger, 1932. xxxviii, 306p. \$2.25.

The first treatise of the *Spiritual Guide*. The author is a recognized master of the interior life and of contemplative prayer. Recommended to all.

Thomas Aquinas, 1225-1274. *On prayer and the contemplative life*; by Hugh Pope, O.P. Benziger, 1914. xii, 272p. o. p.

An English translation of the portions of the *Summa Theologica* on Religion, on Devotion,

Prayer and the Contemplative life, with appropriate passages from Augustine and Cajetan added.

### 3. SPIRITUAL EXERCISES OF SAINT IGNATIUS LOYOLA

Some of the books listed elsewhere are collections of retreat conferences or offer considerations helpful in time of retreat. The books listed below are concerned exclusively with the *Spiritual Exercises* as written by Saint Ignatius. They are either texts, commentaries, or combinations of both. Several of the better commentaries, written by early Jesuits, are not included because they are unavailable at present in English editions.

While hundreds of books have been written on the *Exercises*, either by way of commentary or as developments of meditations, it can be questioned whether retreats are any better made because of them. Many of the thoughts and applications they introduce are foreign to the idea of an Ignatian retreat and by their very multiplicity tend to obscure the action of the Holy Spirit in the individual soul. The fundamental doctrinal and moral truths, moreover, made much of by Ignatius, can readily be lost sight of in the midst of the incidentals often introduced by so-called retreat manuals. It is for this reason that no effort is made to list many titles under this heading. This is not to say that other good books on the *Spiritual Exercises* do not exist in English, but only to indicate that great care should be exercised in selecting them.

Ignatius Loyola, Saint, 1491-1556. *Spiritual Exercises*; translation and commentary by J. Longridge. London, Burns, Oates and Washbourne.

This work, written by an Anglican, is an outstanding contribution to the literature on the *Exercises*. It furnishes solid material for developing and explaining the text. The author



acknowledges his indebtedness to the commentary of Father Roothan for many of his ideas.

—*Spiritual Exercises*; Spanish and English with a continuous commentary; edited by Joseph Rickaby, S.J. London, Burns and Oates, Ltd., 1915. Herder. \$3.25.

Spanish and English text appear in parallel columns. Important points are commented on and the application to contemporary life indicated.

—*Text of the Spiritual Exercises*; translated from the original Spanish; preface by John Morris, S.J. Newman Book Shop, 1943. xii, 125p. \$1.25.

A handy volume providing a quite satisfactory English translation. The American "offset" edition is taken from the 4th edition, revised.

Ambruzzi, Aloysius (S.J.). *Companion to the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius*; foreword by Cardinal Lepicier. Bruce, 1938. xx, 348p. \$2.25.

Original edition: Mangalore, India, St. Aloysius' College, 1928.

Helpful for developing and understanding the meditations of the *Spiritual Exercises*. The same author edited with a commentary: *The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius*. Mangalore, India, St. Aloysius College, 1937. xii, 145p.

*Directory to the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius*. Authorized translation. London, Manresa Press, 1925. xx, 163p.

A written record of early Jesuit tradition on giving the Exercises, the *Directory* was intended as a guide for retreat masters. It helps us to a better understanding of what Ignatius meant. Useful especially for those who make their retreats alone.

#### 4. BIOGRAPHY

Lives of the saints and of outstanding followers of the Christian life should form a prominent part of spiritual reading. They provide example, inspiration, encouragement, and, in a sense, case studies of the spiritual life in practice. Without a wide acquaintance with the lives of such persons, one's knowledge of the interior life will always have something of the theoretical and individualistic about it. The books listed here include only lives of canonized saints.

Prominent men and women saints of various eras and types of life will be found on the list, but there are many others who might have been included were there space. For the most part the biographies chosen are critical rather than popular. While the latter type make easy reading they rarely give a picture of the saint sufficiently accurate to truly appreciate his character and the more delicate aspects of his sanctity.

ALOYSIUS GONZAGA, 1568-1591. Martin-dale, Cyril Charlie (S.J.), 1879-. *Vocation of Aloysius Gonzaga*. Herder, 1928. xviii, 301p. il. \$2.50.

The saintly character of Aloysius and his determined quest for God stand out in contrast to the political and cultural life of the Renaissance. The author's treatment, though stressing the contrast, is by no means negative, but gives a clear picture of the spiritual growth of the young saint.

BENEDICT, d.543. Herwegen, Ildephons (O.S.B.), 1874-. *St. Benedict, a character study*; translated by Peter Nugent, O.S.B. Herder, 1925. 183p. \$2.25.

The sources for Benedict's life are limited and none too accurate. Abbot Herwegen uses them and the Rule to good advantage in revealing what manner of man was the saint. A more critical study of the life, and of the text of the Rule, is found in *Saint Benedict*, by Justin McCann, O.S.B. Sheed, 1937. 301p. il. \$2.75.

BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX, 1090-1153. Luddy, Ailbe John (O.Cist.), 1885-. *Life and teaching of St. Bernard*. Dublin, M. H. Gill, 1937. xv, 774p. il. \$6.50.

This lengthy but readable history of the reformer of monasteries, counsellor of princes and popes, Doctor of the Church, is the result of painstaking research and competent writing.

CATHERINE OF SIENA, 1347-1380. Jorgensen, Johannes, 1866-. *Saint Catherine of Siena*; translated by Ingeborg Lund. Longmans, 1938. ix, 466p. \$3.50.

The saint's intimate union with God was preserved amidst intense apostolic activity. Jorgensen's scholarly and enjoyable biography shows how contemplation enabled her to meet the critical problems of her age.

CHARLES BORROMEO, 1538-1584. Orsenigo, Cesare, archbishop, 1873-. *Life of*



*St. Charles Borromeo*; translated by Rudolph Kraus. Herder, 1943. ix, 390p. il. \$4.00.

These sketches, written for the tercentenary of the canonization, were later put in book form, and are now translated without loss to the original. They do not form a critical biography, but present connected studies of many phases of the life and character of the Milanese reformer.

DOMINIC, 1170-1221. Mandonnet, Pierre (O.P.), 1858-1936. *St. Dominic and his work*; translated by Sister Mary Larkin, O.P. Herder, 1944. xviii, 486p. \$5.00.

A well-documented, penetrating account of the life and achievement of the Dominican founder. His insight and courage in meeting the crisis of his day is an inspiration to us who face a not totally dissimilar crisis. Some chapters can be omitted by the ordinary reader. A short biography is that of Bede Jarrett, O.P. *Life of St. Dominic*. Benziger, 1924. 179p. \$2.35.

FRANCIS OF ASSISI, 1181-1226. Cuthbert, Father (O.S.F.C.), 1866-1939. *Life of St. Francis of Assisi*. Longmans, 1912. ix, 453p. il. \$2.00.

(Newer and cheaper edition, with omissions, 1933. xiv, 464p.)

The social-minded Francis of history stands out vividly in this critical life which separates fact from legend and maintains interest while doing it. For one who knows the life, a fine character study is that of G. K. Chesterton, *St. Francis of Assisi*. Doubleday, 1924. 234p. A critical biography deserving attention is that of Johannes Jorgensen, *St. Francis of Assisi*; translated by T. O'Connor Sloane. Longmans, 1939. xv, 428p. \$3.00.

FRANCIS OF SALES, 1567-1622. Burton, Harold, 1868-. *Life of St. Francis de Sales*, adapted from Abbé Hamon's *Vie de S. François de Sales*. Kenedy, 1926-29. 2v., 516, 377p. \$8.50 set.

This masterly biography gives the saint's life in intimate detail. Scholarly but never dry, it reveals the bishop of Annecy both as an artist of the spirit and an apostle acutely aware of contemporary socio-religious problems.

GEMMA GALGANI, 1878-1903. Germanus of St. Stanislaus, Father (C.P.). *Blessed Gemma Galgani, the holy maid of Lucca*; translated by A. M. O'Sullivan, O.S.B. rev. ed. Herder, 1933. xxiv, 391p. \$3.50.

This is a revision of the authoritative and detailed work published four years after the death of a modern saint.

IGNATIUS LOYOLA, 1491-1555. Astrain, Antonio (S.J.), 1857-. *A short life of*

*St. Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus*; translated by Robert Hull, S.J. Benziger, 1928. xii, 116p. il. \$0.85.

A brief account that gives a rich and accurate picture of Ignatius' character. Another short but satisfying biography is that of John Hungerford Pollen, S.J., *Saint Ignatius Loyola*. Kenedy, 1922. 167p. \$1.50.

ISAAC JOGUES, 1607-1646. Talbot, Francis Xavier (S.J.), 1889-. *Saint among savages, the life of Isaac Jogues*. Harper, 1935. ix, 466p. il. \$3.50.

A full-length biography of the best-known of the North American martyrs. Critical in its approach, it has the qualities of a literary masterpiece.

JOHN BAPTIST VIANNEY, 1786-1859. Monnin, Alfred, 1823-. *Curé of Ars*; translation and notes by Bertram Wolferstan, S.J. Herder, 1924. 558p. il. \$4.00.

Rich in details drawn from statements of contemporaries, this absorbing life uncovers much of the supernatural aids and diabolical trials experienced by the zealous curé in his apostolate of confessional and pulpit. Henri Ghéon provides a shorter and more popular sketch in *The Secret of the Curé d'Ars*, with a note on the saint by G. K. Chesterton. Sheed, 1929. 217p. \$3.00.

JOHN OF THE CROSS, 1542-1591. Bruno de Jésus-Marie, Father (O.D.C.). *St. John of the Cross*; edited by Benedict Zimmerman, O.D.C.; with an introduction by Jacques Maritain. Benziger, 1932. xxxii, 495p. il. \$6.00.

A scholarly life that uses the latest documentation. The spiritual growth of the saint is portrayed against a well-developed background. His greatness of soul shines through the conflict and misunderstanding prominent in Philip II's Spain and the reform of Carmel.

PAUL. Holzner, Joseph, 1875-. *Paul of Tarsus*; translated by Frederick C. Eckhoff. Herder, 1944. vi, 502p. maps. \$5.00.

The life and teaching of Paul are presented for the average reader in an attractive story which profitably utilizes all we know from the New Testament and supplements it by the findings of history and archeology about Asia Minor of his day. Substantially accurate, in places the absence of certainty has been made up for by probabilities and the fictional device.

PETER CANISIUS, 1521-1597. Brodrick, James (S.J.), 1891-. *Saint Peter Canisius*, S.J. Sheed, 1935. xv, 859p. il. \$7.50.

Definitive biography of the leader of the Counter-Reformation in Germany and Doctor of

the Church. This is enlightening and pleasant reading for those who wish to see how saints meet catastrophes.

ROBERT BELLARMINE, SAINT, 1542-1621. Brodrick, James (S.J.), 1891-. *Life and work of Blessed Robert Francis Cardinal Bellarmine, 1542-1621*; introduction by Cardinal Ehrle. Kenedy, 1928. 2v. 544, 552p.

Maintaining throughout high literary and critical standards, this monumental biography portrays the Renaissance cardinal as a competent and saintly participant in the great theological and moral controversies of his day. Some may prefer to skip the long and documented account of the controversy on grace.

TERESA OF AVILA, 1515-1582. *Life of St. Teresa, written by herself*; translated by David Lewis; re-edited with additional notes and introduction by Benedict Zimmerman, O.D.C. Newman Book Shop, 1943. xxxix, 516p. \$3.75.

This classical autobiography is a triumph of self-revelation in recounting the author's growth in divine intimacy. Not a theologian, Teresa relates experiences and leaves to others the doctrinal explanation. A noteworthy biography is that of William T. Walsh. *St. Teresa of Avila*. Bruce, 1943. 592p. \$5.00.

THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX, 1873-1897. *Soeur Thérèse of Lisieux, the Little Flower of Jesus*; a new and complete translation of *L'histoire d'une âme*, edited by T. N. Taylor. Burns and Oates, 1914. Kenedy, 1913. xiii, 429p. il. \$3.25.

The simplicity of Thérèse's soul and its constant orientation toward God are better understood after reading this personal account of her interior life. An outstanding popular life is that of Henri Ghéon. *The Secret of the Little Flower*. Sheed, 1934. x, 243p. \$2.00.

THOMAS AQUINAS, 1225-1274. Chesterton, Gilbert Keith, 1874-1936. *St. Thomas Aquinas*. Sheed, 1933. xii, 248p. \$2.50.

An admirably written introduction to the life and thought of the Angelic Doctor. It contributes to our understanding of Thomas' relation to his own age and to the universal Church.

## 5. LIFE OF CHRIST

In recent years, the life of our Lord has been treated from many viewpoints. A considerable number of "lives" have for their principal objective the arousing of devotion. Such books present the mysteries of Christ's life to us in a form suitable

for meditation, reflection or inspirational reading. Other works put more emphasis on the historical aspects and seek to show us Christ in historical perspective as God-Man and founder of the Church. Still others examine His life exegetically, unfolding to us the exact meaning of the Gospels. Finally there are critical works which defend apologetically Christ's mission, claims and teachings. All of these lives have their places. All are represented in the list below. The devout lives are for every reader; the others should be read by those with somewhat broader educational background who wish to get a full and accurate picture of the divine Person and work of the Savior.

Bonaventure, Saint, 1221-1274. (supposed author.) *Meditations on the life of Christ, attributed to St. Bonaventure*; translated by Sister M. Emmanuel, O.S.B. Herder, 1934. xviii, 441p. \$2.75.

Composed by an unknown Tuscan friar sometime before 1330, these devotional reflections on Christ's life have become a spiritual classic.

Fillion, Louis Claude (S.S.), 1843-. *Life of Christ; an historical, critical and apologetic exposition*; translated by Newton Thompson. Herder, 1930-31. 3v. \$4.00 ea., set, \$10.00.

A scholarly yet readable life of our Lord, somewhat similar to that of Grandmaison in aim and treatment.

Fouard, Constant Henri, 1837-1904. *Christ the Son of God*. new rev. ed. Longmans, 1944. xxvi, 346p. \$2.00.

This is a one-volume edition of a popular and solid exposition of the Gospel narrative. It has been reset in clear, legible type, and notes, maps and appendices are omitted.

Goodier, Alban (S.J.), 1869-1939. *Public life of our Lord Jesus Christ; an interpretation*. Kenedy, 1930. 2v. 478, 488p. \$6.50.

Addressed to the devout reader rather than the student, this well-known life is characterized by spiritual insight and an adroit interweaving of the Gospel text, arranged in sense lines, with the rest of the story. The author completes his biography of Christ in *Passion*

and Death of Our Lord Jesus Christ (Kenedy, 1933. 425p. \$3.50), and Risen Jesus (Kenedy, 1924. 161p. \$1.35).

Grandmaison, Léonce de (S.J.), 1868-1927. *Jesus Christ; His person, His message, His credentials*. Sheed, 1930-32. 3v. 332, 384, 523p. Set \$11.00.

A mature and critical study of the life of Christ, chiefly from an apologetic viewpoint. Contents: v. 1, Sources for the history of Jesus and the Gospel settings; v. 2, Message and Person of Jesus; v. 3, Founding of Christianity. The first volume might be passed over by the devout reader not especially interested in sources.

Lagrange, Marie-Joseph (O.P.), 1855-1938. *Gospel of Jesus Christ*. Benziger, 1939. 2v. \$3.00 per vol.

The author, a noted Scripture scholar, synthesizes in this work his collection of studies on the Gospels, arranging them in a continuous narrative and commenting on the incidents.

Lebreton, Jules (S.J.), 1873-. *Life and teaching of Jesus Christ our Lord*. Bruce, 1935. 2v. 416, 473p. \$3.50 per vol.

A historical study of the life and teaching of our Lord and of His foundation of the Church. Its aim is rather to engender a devout appreciation of the Person of Christ than to provide an apologetic defense of His claims.

Maas, Anthony J. (S.J.), 1858-1927. *Life of Christ according to the Gospel history*. 8th ed. Herder, 1927. xxxix, 622p. \$3.50.

This harmony of the Gospels gives the continuous story of the life of Christ in the words of Scripture. Notes explaining the text, as well as the life and customs of Palestine, appear at the bottom of each page. Helpful in preparing mental prayer on the mysteries of our Lord.

O'Brien, Isidore (O.F.M.), 1895-. *Life of Christ*. St. Anthony Guild Press, 1937. xiv, 504p. \$2.50.

Suited primarily to study clubs, because of the references and questions provided, this popular life, with its clear narrative style, will be found pleasant and profitable by casual readers.

Willam, Franz Michel, 1894-. *Life of Jesus Christ in the land of Israel and among its people*; translated and adapted by Newton Thompson. Herder, 1936. xi, 488p. \$4.00.

The outstanding feature of this popular life is its vivid portrayal of the world in which Christ lived and taught. A wealth of archeological detail helps the reader to a better understanding of the places, people and customs of Palestine.

## 6. BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

The ever-plentiful literature on the Blessed Virgin reflects Catholic devotion to her, but its very quantity puts the reader at a disadvantage unless he approaches it with discrimination. Much that has been written leans strongly in the direction of devotion and has but little doctrinal or ascetical significance. Some of the older "lives" of the Blessed Virgin fill up the meager Gospel account with almost uninhibited flights of fancy. The few books here mentioned—and there are many more—have been selected with an eye to building devotion to Mary on a sound doctrinal and Scriptural basis. No attempt has been made to list any of the instructive and edifying works which tell of Mary's solicitude for men at Lourdes or other popular shrines.

Alphonsus Liguori, Saint. *Glories of Mary*. Redemptorist Press, 1931. 710p. \$1.35.

Though some modern readers may find this book rather lengthy and somewhat tedious reading, it contains a wealth of material on the Blessed Mother.

John Eudes, Saint, 1601-1680. *Wondrous childhood of the most holy Mother of God*. Peekskill, N. Y., Convent of the Good Shepherd, 1915. xxxi, 427p.

A fervent canticle of praise with numerous quotations from Scripture, the Fathers and the Saints. It is a devout and instructive book urging simple devotion to the Blessed Virgin, especially in the young, with some of the limitations of style of the seventeenth century.

Lattey, Cuthbert (S.J.), 1877-. editor. *Our Blessed Lady*; papers read at the Summer School of Catholic Studies, held at Cambridge, July 29th - August 7th, 1933. London, Burns, Oates and Washbourne, 1934. xv, 260p. (Herder, \$2.40.)

This series of lectures by outstanding English priests touches on many aspects of Mary's prerogatives and Catholic devotion to her.

Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, Blessed, 1673-1716. *Treatise on true devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary*; translated from the French, with preface by

Frederick William Faber; introduction by the Montfort Fathers. Rev. ed. Bay Shore, N. Y., Montfort Fathers, 1941. xxx, 266p. \$1.00.

A devout little treatise on the Blessed Virgin which, as Cardinal Vaughan cautions, should be read in its entirety with an awareness of the fervor of the author and with care not to interpret the phrases and expressions out of their context.

Smith, George Duncan. *Mary's part in our redemption*. Kenedy, 1938. xi, 187p. \$1.75.

A satisfying study of the role that Mary plays in the divine economy of redemption. Based on St. Thomas, it gives many quotations from him as well as from the Fathers and the Roman Pontiffs.

Vassal-Phillips, Oliver Rodie (C.S.S.R.), 1857-1932. *Mother of Christ, or the Blessed Virgin Mary in Catholic tradition, theology and devotion*. Benziger, 1920. xxviii, 524p. \$2.50.

A devotional and instructive collection of facts, quotations and teachings about Mary's part in the Christian life, her prerogatives and her solicitude for men. Well organized and readable.

Willam, Franz Michel, 1894-. *Mary the Mother of Jesus*; translated by Frederick Eckhoff. Herder, 1938. viii, 352p. \$3.00.

The life and character of the Blessed Virgin are studied in the light of the Gospel account, knowledge of the Old Testament and of the country, history and customs of Palestine.

## 7. ASCETICAL

The books included in this present section are called ascetical to distinguish them from the works which place more emphasis on inspiration and motivation. The ascetical works are more concerned with instruction in the principles and norms of action of the spiritual life. The distinction is at times rather arbitrary and not very important. Suffice to say that well-rounded spiritual reading will include ascetical books touching on many doctrines of faith and by various authors. Selection has been with a view to covering all aspects of Catholic teaching and to including authors of differing viewpoint and varying approach.

Adam, Karl Borromeo, 1876-. *Spirit of Catholicism*; translated by Justin McCann, O.S.B. rev. ed. Macmillan, 1937. xi, 272p. \$2.00.

In the introductory chapter Karl Adam puts the question: What is the nature of the Church? The rest of the book is a thoughtful answer to the question. Through the Church Christ continues His work in the world and God reaches down to men. For more mature readers.

Bainvel, Jean Vincent (S.J.), 1838-1900. *Devotion to the Sacred Heart*; the doctrine and its history; translated by E. Leahy. Benziger, 1924. 371p. \$4.00.

The devotion is considered under three headings: as understood and practiced by St. Margaret Mary; its theology, and its historical development. A standard work on the subject for the average reader.

Blosius, Louis (O.S.B.), 1506-1566. *Spiritual works of Louis of Blois*; edited by John Edward Bowden. Benziger, 1903. xii, 306p. o. p.

This edition contains: Rule of the spiritual life; Spiritual mirror, and String of spiritual jewels. Other writings of the famous abbot were published by Benziger in 1926. All are popular works of spiritual instruction.

Caussade, Jean Pierre de (S.J.), 1675-1751. *Self-abandonment to divine providence*; revised and edited by Henri Ramiere; translated by Algar Thorold. Burns, Oates and Washbourne, 1938. xxv, 148p. 5s.

Peace and progress can only be obtained by submission and surrender to divine providence. The question is extensively treated in this well-known book. The actual practice of self-abandonment is the chief topic of the *Spiritual Letters*; translated by Algar Thorold and with an introduction by Archbishop Goodier. Burns, Oates and Washbourne, 1934. 152p. 6s.

Cotel, Peter (S.J.), 1800-1884. *Principles of the religious life*; an explanation of The Catechism of the vows; revised and adapted to the Code of Canon Law by Emile Jombart; translated by T. L. Bouscaren, S.J. Benziger, 1926. v, 231p. \$1.75.

A standard work for novices and junior religious. It is most desirable that the edition used be revised according to the new Code of canon law.

Faber, Frederick William, 1814-1863. *Growth in holiness, or The progress of the spiritual life*. Murphy [1854]. xvi, 494p. \$1.50.



An old favorite, this series of conferences discusses the means of perfection for persons living in the world. Modern readers may find the style somewhat diffuse and rhetorical. Among Father Faber's many other works may be mentioned *Creator and creature*, or *The wonders of divine love*; newly edited and with an introduction by John C. Reville, S.J. Wagner, 1923. 414p. \$1.35.

Francis de Sales, Saint, 1567-1622. *Spiritual conferences*; translated from the Annecy text of 1895 under the supervision of Abbot Gasquet and Canon Mackey, O.S.B. Newman Book Shop, 1943. lxxi, 406p. \$2.75.

This series of twenty-one conferences was given by the founder of the Visitation to his spiritual daughters at Annecy. Though composed from the notes and recollections of the religious to whom the conferences were addressed, they reproduce the spirit and teaching of the saintly bishop. Practical instructions by the saint will also be found in *Letters to persons in religion*; translated by Henry Benedict Mackey, O.S.B. Newman Book Shop, 1943. xxxvi, 443p. \$2.75.

—*Philothea*; or, *An introduction to the devout life*. Philadelphia, P. Reilly, 1942. xviii, 318p. \$1.75.

Addressed primarily to those living in the world, but helpful to others also, this little volume is a spiritual classic, both as regards ascetical teaching and practical advice.

—*Treatise on the love of God*; translated by Henry Benedict Mackey, O.S.B. Newman Book Shop, 1942. xlv, 555p. \$2.50.

In the Saint's own words, this masterpiece of his treats of "the history, progress, decay, operations, properties, advantages and excellences of the divine love". The lengthy introduction summarizes the treatise, points out difficulties and disputed questions. Requires some background.

Garrigou-Lagrange, Réginald (O.P.), 1877-. *Three ways of the spiritual life*. Benziger, 1938. xii, 112p. \$1.25.

A synopsis, in popular form, of two larger works by the same author: *Christian perfection and contemplation* (see above), and *L'Amour de Dieu et la Croix de Jésus*. The three stages of the spiritual life are considered in the light of common teaching on grace and growth in prayer.

Gasquet, Francis Aidan Cardinal (O.S.B.), 1846-1929. *Religio religiosi; the object and scope of the religious life*. Kenedy, 1923. xi, 122p. \$1.35.

Deeply spiritual and penetrating analysis of the attitudes of a religious toward the uni-

verse, God, the soul, religion, the vows, and purpose of religious life. Psychological in approach, and in the latter chapters giving particular attention to the monastic life.

Gay, Charles, 1815-1892. *Religious life and the vows*; translated by a Benedictine Father. Newman Book Shop, 1942. viii, 276p. \$2.50.

This translation includes the three chapters on the vows of religion found in Bishop Gay's longer book, *The Christian life and the virtues*, quite popular in the last century.

Graham, Aelred (O.S.B.). *Love of God; an essay in analysis*. Longmans, 1939. xix, 252p. \$2.50.

A study of the essential element of the interior life. While not strictly a technical book for the theological student, the treatment is definitely doctrinal and is based on the teaching of St. Thomas and of the best ascetical writers. Presupposes educational background and some spiritual development.

Jane Francis Fremyot de Chantal, Saint, 1575-1643. *The spiritual life; a summary of the instructions on the virtues and on prayer given by the saint*; compiled by the Sisters of the Visitation, Harrow-on-Hill. Herder, 1928. 306p. \$2.75.

Part one discusses charity, the vows, humility and mortification. Part two is concerned with prayer: what it is, the degrees, and how to remove obstacles to progress. Letters of the saint, and some of St. Francis de Sales to her, have been added.

John of the Cross, Saint, 1542-1591. *Complete works of Saint John of the Cross, Doctor of the Church*; translated from the critical edition of P. Silverio de Santa Teresa, C.D., and edited by E. Allison Peers. Burns, Oates and Washbourne, 1934-35. 3v. lxxvii, 486, 480, 470p. Newman Book Shop, 1945. Set, \$12.00.

Scholarly and critical edition of the saint's writings, all of which will not be read with equal profit by every reader. The *Ascent of Mount Carmel* and the *Dark night* are the works most suitable for general reading. As Saint John of the Cross possessed philosophical and theological background, lacking to other mystical writers, his works should be of special value to students of spiritual theology.

Jungmann, Joseph Andreas (S.J.) *Liturgical worship*; translated by a monk of St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, Minn. Pustet, 1941. 141p. \$1.25.

The liturgy is here shown as a practical and important means of instruction in Christian



doctrine. Originally a series of lectures, this little book will help to a better understanding of the ascetical value of liturgical prayer.

Juergensmeier, Friedrich. *Mystical Body of Christ as the basic principle of religious life*. London, George Coldwell, 1939. 309p.

These conferences, first given to seminarians, explain the teaching of St. Paul and show the ascetical implications of his doctrine. The reader with some theological background will find the concept of the Mystical Body carefully treated in its historical development in *The whole Christ*, by Emile Mersch, S.J., translated by John R. Kelly, S.J. Bruce, 1938. xvi, 623p. \$5.00.

Klein, Felix, 1862-. *Doctrine of the Trinity*; translated by Daniel J. Sullivan. Kenedy, 1940. 293p. \$2.50.

Noteworthy theological and devotional treatise on the central dogma of Christian faith. After two introductory chapters, the doctrine is explained and then its implications in daily life indicated.

Lallemant, Louis (S.J.), 1588-1635. *Spiritual doctrine of Father Louis Lallemant, S.J.*, preceded by some account of his life; edited by Frederick William Faber. London, Burns, Oates and Company, 1870. xii, 351p. Newman Book Shop, 1946. xvi, 304p. \$3.00.

Not written by Father Lallemant himself, this volume is a collection of his conferences as taken down by a young priest. In it is considered spiritual perfection in the light of docility to the Holy Spirit, imitation of the interior spirit of Our Lord and union with God in prayer.

Leen, Edward (C.S.Sp.), 1885-1945. *The Holy Ghost and His work in souls*. Sheed, 1937. ix, 341p. \$2.75.

Third of a series, of which the first two are *Progress through mental prayer* and *In the likeness of Christ*. The first eight chapters tell of the Holy Ghost and His relations with the other Persons of the Trinity; the last five chapters, of His work in us for our perfection.

Leen, Edward (C.S.Sp.), 1885-1945. *In the likeness of Christ*. Sheed, 1936. xxiv, 361p. \$2.75.

Studies on the humanity of Christ which reveal Him as the Way to the Father. Christ Incarnate shows His fellow men the principles by which they must live if they are to grow to the full stature of adopted sonship. The author has written of "the Christian ideal" in "its bold, uncompromising expression" under the title *Why the cross?* Sheed, 1939. 366p. \$2.75.

Leen, James (C.S.Sp.), 1888-. *By Jacob's well, a planned retreat*; translated from the French by Edward Leen. Kenedy, 1940. x, 419p. \$3.50.

These conferences by the brother of Edward Leen are arranged for a ten-day retreat. Drawing on Scripture sources, especially Saint Paul, they consider numerous principles and practices of the spiritual life, with special attention to grace and the sacraments, union with God and the indwelling of the Holy Ghost.

Lehen, F. de. *Way of interior peace*; translated from the German version of James Brucker, S.J. Benziger, 1925. 381p. \$2.50.

Souls troubled with scruples, fears and anxieties will find instruction and comfort in the exposition of the workings of divine providence and of the manner in which God intends the soul to grow in perfection through submission to it.

McGarrigle, Francis J. (S.J.). *My Father's will*. Bruce, 1944. 323p. \$2.75.

A thoughtful and complete study of the virtue of obedience and its relation to sanctity, showing that sanctity, a perfection of being, is proportionate to our union with God's Will. The treatment of the subject is simple and direct, replete with illustrations from the writings of the saints and doctors of ascetical theology.

Marmion, Columba (O.S.B.), 1858-1923. *Christ in His mysteries: spiritual and liturgical conferences*; translated by a nun of Tyburn Convent. Herder, 1939. xiv, 441p. \$2.75.

Making abundant use of the liturgy, Abbot Marmion leads his readers, step by step, through the liturgical year and the mysteries of Christ's life portrayed therein. *Our way and our life*; edited by a nun of Tyburn convent. Herder, 1927. vii, 235p., is an abridgement of *Christ in His mysteries*.

Marmion, Columba (O.S.B.), 1858-1923. *Christ the life of the soul*; translated from the French by a nun of Tyburn Convent. Herder, 1925. xix, 359p. \$2.75.

(Cheaper edition: Herder, 1940. 23, 395p.)

In part one the abbot explains the divine economy of redemption and the place Christ has in it. The second part shows the ways of God in allowing us to partake of Christ's merits and to model our lives on His. Scripture is abundantly used. *Christ the ideal of the monk*. Herder, 1929. xii, 436p. \$2.75., has proved instructive and inspiring to many others besides the Benedictines to whom it was originally directed.

Marmion, Columba (O.S.B.), 1858-1923. *Union with God, according to the letters of direction of Dom Marmion*; edited by Raymond Thibaut; translated by Mother Mary St. Thomas. London, Sands, 1935. xxiv, 275p. 7/6.

Dom Thibaut, himself a disciple of Marmion, arranges the letters very effectively so as to bring out systematically the teachings of his master. Because of the arrangement and the running commentary the reader is less exposed to the danger of drawing general conclusions from particular instances than is ordinarily the case in such volumes of letters.

Masson, Yves Ernest (O.P.), 1883-. *Christian life and the spiritual life; introduction to the study of ascetical and mystical theology*; translated by Sr. M. Hyacinth, O.P. Herder, 1931. xii, 249p. \$1.35.

An introduction, Thomistic in arrangement and treatment, to the spiritual life scientifically considered. It draws heavily on St. Thomas, Garrigou-Lagrange and the doctors of the Church. Disputed questions are either avoided or not treated as such. Unfortunately the references given are to the French works, not having been translated with the text itself.

Maturin, Basil William, 1847-1915. *Self knowledge and self-discipline*. St. Anthony Guild, 1939. 301p. \$1.50.

Papers on different aspects of self-knowledge and self-control by a noted Anglican convert. Another common sense work by the same author is *Some principles and practices of the spiritual life*. Longmans, 1910. 208p. *Laws of the spiritual life*. Longmans, 1909. 281p. is a series of practical sermons on the beatitudes.

Meschler, Moritz (S.J.), 1830-1912. *Three fundamental principles of the spiritual life*. Newman Book Shop, 1945. vi, 240p. \$2.00.

The principles discussed are prayer, love and self-denial. Treatment is popular rather than technical.

Meyer, Rudolph J. (S.J.), 1841-1912. *Science of the saints*. Herder, 1928-32. 2v. 325, 418p. \$1.75 per vol.

Basic principles of the spiritual life are developed on a popular level. Volume one tells of "Man such as he is" and volume two of "The world in which we live".

Plus, Raoul (S.J.), 1882-. *Christ in His brethren*; translated by Irene Hernaman. Benziger, 1925. vii, 207p. \$2.25.

After considering the Church, Christ's Mystical Body, the author points out the relations

we have with others because of common redemption by Christ. Applications are made to the exterior apostolate, the apostolate of prayer and that of suffering. The idea of reparation and the apostolate of suffering is developed in *Reparation: its history, doctrine and practice*. Benziger, 1931. 108p. This is an amplification of an earlier work: *Ideal of reparation*. Benziger, 1922.

—*God within us; done into English by Edith Cowell*. Kenedy, 1924. xiv, 167p. \$2.00.

On the indwelling of the Holy Ghost and the cultivation of God present within us. Partly devotional, partly ascetical, it is designed chiefly for beginners. Examples are drawn largely from the writings of French mystics of recent years but the mystical graces as such are not discussed. Translation is somewhat deficient. The author emphasizes the need for an intense supernatural life in his other work: *In Christ Jesus*. Benziger, 1924.

Rodriguez, Alphonsus (S.J.), 1526-1618. *Practice of perfection and Christian virtues*; translated from the Spanish by Joseph Rickaby, S.J. Loyola University Press, 1929. 3v. \$3.20 ea., set \$9.00.

Instructions on the virtues and living of a life of perfection. The emphasis is on the practical and to that extent this otherwise excellent treatise falls short of being a complete manual of asceticism. Particularly helpful to beginners.

Scaramelli, John Baptist (S.J.), 1687-1752. *Directorium asceticum, or, Guide to the spiritual life*. London, Burns, Oates and Washbourne, 1924. 4v. Benziger. \$10.00.

A four-part treatise on the spiritual life, the moral and the theological virtues. The traditional and intellectualistic approach has resulted in numerous divisions of material. This well-known work will chiefly interest directors and students, while general readers will profit by particular passages and sections.

Scupoli, Lorenzo, 1530-1610. *Spiritual combat; together with the treatise of inward peace*; a new translation from the Italian. Longmans, 1935. xii, 279p. Newman Book Shop, 1945.

A classic little book written toward the end of the sixteenth century, it portrays for beginners the obstacles to be met along the road to perfection and indicates aids which should be used.

Teresa of Avila, Saint, 1515-1582. *Interior castle, or, The Mansions*; translated by the Benedictines of Stanbrook; revised with introduction and notes by Benedict Zimmerman, O.C.D. London, T. Baker, 1912. xxxvi, 303p. Benziger. \$3.00.

This, along with the *Way of perfection* and the autobiography, are the writings of St Teresa most suited to general reading. The *Interior castle* is the saint's description and analysis of the progressive steps in prayer as she experienced them. It can be read with profit by those who already have a beginner's knowledge of prayer and enough discretion not to universalize from some of Teresa's personal experiences.

—*Way of perfection*; translated by the Benedictines of Stanbrook; revised with notes and introduction by Benedict Zimmerman, O.C.D. London, T. Baker, 1935. xxxvii, 272p. Benziger, \$3.50.

Teresa's instruction to her nuns on the practice of the virtues and of prayer. Much of what she writes will prove helpful to all.

### 8. DEVOTIONAL

In this section, which could be extended to great length, first preference has been given to older, classical authors, with only a few contemporaries listed. This has seemed the safer course since there is considerable difficulty in deciding on the merits of the numerous devotional works which are constantly produced. Many of them are relatively unimportant and not of much consequence for progressive spiritual reading. The selection below is not meant to imply, however, that authors and works not listed are unsatisfactory for devotional reading. Discretion is needed in selecting books for devotional reading. In general, preference should be given to recognized authors of some standing. There is less danger that their devotional writings will be influenced by vague or inaccurate doctrinal concepts.

Augustine, Saint, 354-430. *Confessions of St. Augustine*; translated by F. J. Sheed. Sheed, 1943. xxii, 354p. \$3.00.

Classic account of a wayward soul's struggle with grace and of its surrender to the force of divine love. Should be read by all.

—*Soliloquies of Saint Augustine*; a manual of contemplative prayer. New and exact translation by L.M.F.G. Lon-

don, Sands & Co., 1912. vii, 184p. Herder, 1913. \$0.60.

These fervent outpourings of Augustine's soul are in themselves an invitation to prayer. They also indirectly reveal his thought on divine providence and grace.

Bernard of Clairvaux, Saint, 1090-1153. *On the love of God*; translated from the Latin with supplementary notes by Terence L. Connolly, S.J. Spiritual Book Associates, 1937. vii, 259p. \$2.50.

The great medieval mystic and doctor of the Church tells why God is to be loved for his own sake, and how we can reduce that love to action in daily life. Recommended to all.

Bonaventure, Saint, 1221-1274. *Holiness of life*, being St. Bonaventure's treatise *De perfectione vitae ad sorores*; Englished by Laurence Costello, O.F.M. Herder, 1923. xxxi, 103p. \$1.00.

This simple and devout little work speaks of self-knowledge, humility, poverty, silence, prayer, Christ's passion, love of God, final perseverance.

Bonaventure, Saint, 1221-1274. *Virtues of a religious superior (De sex alis Seraphim)*; translated from the Latin by Sabinus Mollitor, O.F.M. Herder, 1920. 112p. \$0.60.

The Seraphic Doctor gives a short and practical instruction on the qualities and virtues to be cultivated by religious superiors. Selection of superiors, zeal for justice, compassion, patience, edification, prudent discretion, devotion to prayer are the topics considered. Helpful to all placed over others.

Catherine of Siena, Saint, 1347-1380. *Dialogue of the seraphic virgin Catherine of Siena*, dictated by her, while in a state of ecstasy, to her secretaries, and completed in the year 1370; together with an account of her death by an eyewitness; translated from the original Italian, and preceded by an introduction on the life and times of the saint, by Algar Thorold. New abridged edition. Newman Book Shop, 1943. 344p. \$2.75.

The treatises on divine providence, discretion, prayer and obedience, herein contained, present ascetical counsels in a devotional form and manifest a tender love of Christ and His Church. Best read in conjunction with a good biography of the saint.

Charles, Pierre (S.J.). *Prayer for all men*; translated from the French by J. S. Sumner. Kenedy, 1942. 143p. \$1.75.

Informal meditations in which the reader is led to ponder on the needs and riches of the apostolic life of the Church and on the necessity of socializing one's personal prayer as a condition of full spiritual growth.

Charles, Pierre (S.J.). *Prayer for all times*; translated by Maud Monahan. Kenedy, 1925-30. 3v. 179, 171, 176p. \$1.85 per vol.

Simple reflections on profound truths. The language is that of everyday life and the examples out of daily experience. The approach is positive; the author's objective to bring our routine existence into closer relation with God.

Gertrude, Saint. *Life and revelations of Saint Gertrude, virgin and abbess of the Order of Saint Benedict*. Benziger, 1908. \$2.40.

Gertrude's revelations, in addition to exciting devotion, provide practical reflections and spiritual counsels. They are closely connected with the Mass and liturgy of the day, at which times the experiences usually took place.

Grou, Jean Nicolas (S.J.), 1731-1803. *Interior of Jesus and Mary*; revised by Samuel H. Frisbee. Benziger, 1890. 2v. \$3.00.

Holds up Jesus and Mary as the exemplars of Christian life and shows how we may imitate them in our ordinary actions. Most of this author's works are collections of unconnected papers and conferences, later edited and brought into some kind of unity. Among his more noteworthy works are: *Manual for interior souls*. Benziger, 1892. xvi, 415p. \$2.00, and *School of Jesus Christ*; translated by Mrs. Rudolph Stawell. Burns, Oates and Washbourne, 1932. xxiii, 458p. \$3.75.

McGarry, William James (S.J.), 1894-1941. *He cometh*. America Press, 1942. 332p. \$3.50.

To prepare us for the feast of Christ's Coming and to renew the spirit of expectancy in our souls this book offers devotional reflections on the Advent liturgy.

—*Paul and the Crucified*. America Press, 1939. xx, 272p. \$3.00.

With a skillful hand the masterful truths of Paul's teaching are unified and interpreted for the ordinary reader.

—*Unto the end*. (Christ's discourse on love.) America Press, 1941. xiii, 328p. \$3.00.

Popular exegesis of chapters thirteen to seventeen inclusive of Saint John's Gospel, with ascetical and devotional reflections. Suited especially for Passiontide.

*The Psalms, a prayer book*. Also the *canticles of the Roman Breviary*. New English translation . . . by the Professors of the Pontifical Biblical Institute. Benziger, 1945. xvi, 416, 29p. \$3.85.

The new Latin version of the Psalms from the Hebrew with the English translation in parallel columns, accompanied by introductory outlines and explanatory notes, will give liturgical prayer a vastly increased clarity and richer meaning.

Ponte, Louis de, venerable (S.J.), 1554-1624. *Knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ*; translated by a religious of the Order of St. Benedict. London, Burns, Oates, and Washbourne, 1931. x, 214p. 5s.

This is a portion of his larger ascetical work *Dux Spiritualis* (Guia Espirituel). It provides instructive reflections on Christ in His mysteries and shows how we may mold our lives on His.

St. Austin, Mother Mary (H.H.S.). *Divine crucible of purgatory*; revised and edited by Nicholas Ryan, S.J. Kenedy, 1940. viii, 185p. \$2.25.

Edited after the author's death, this little treatise draws heavily on doctrinal and mystical sources in explaining, so far as is humanly possible, the purifying action of purgatory on the soul. There are practical reflections for those seeking purity of soul in this life through spiritual progress. Considerably shorter is the classic essay by Saint Catherine of Genoa: *Treatise on purgatory*. London, Burns and Oates, n.d. 32p.

Steuart, Robert Henry Joseph (S.J.), 1874-*Temples of eternity*. Longmans, 1931. vi, 144p. \$2.00.

Thoughtful reflections on the life of the spirit which, through grace, is already ours and shall continue into eternity if preserved. Among Father Steuart's other works may be mentioned *Inward vision*. Longmans, 1929. viii, 147p. \$2.00, and *World intangible*. Longmans, 1934. vi, 121p. \$2.00., the latter on contemplation and the call thereto.

Tanqueray, Adolph (S.S.), 1854-1932. *Doctrine and devotion*; a translation and an adaptation of *Les dogmes générateurs de la piété* and *La divinisation de la souffrance*, by Louis A. Arand, S.S. Newman Book Shop, 1944. 414p. \$2.00.

This adaptation is designed to show the non-theologian the relationship of the major doctrines of our faith to daily living. Those who



have read the first part of Tanqueray's *Spiritual life* will find the same thoughts here repeated on a more popular level.

Thomas à Kempis, c.1380-1471. *Imitation of Christ*; from the first edition of an English translation made c.1530 by Richard Whitford; edited with an introduction by Edward J. Klein. Harper, 1941. lxix, 261p. \$3.00.  
(Cheaper edition: Harper, 1943. xxv, 261p. \$1.50.)

Numerous editions of this devotional classic are in existence. The above is mentioned because its attractiveness may make reading of Kempis less difficult than is the case with some of the small, fine-print editions. Putting aside the question of authorship, also recommended for its pleasing format and translation is *Following of Christ*; the spiritual diary of Gerard Groote; translated into English by Joseph Malaise, S.J. America Press, 1937. xlv, 273p. \$2.50.

The Editors and Compilers wish to acknowledge the co-operation and helpful suggestions given them by the following: Very Reverend W. Coleman Nevils, S.J., Director of the Scranton Institute for Religious and President of the University of Scranton; Reverend Matthew Keubel, C.P., Passionist Monastery, New York City; Reverend James J. Kortendick, S.S., Catholic University of America; Reverend James A. McEnerney, S.J., St. Joseph's High School, Philadelphia; Reverend Francis J. Keenan, S.J., Rector, Brooklyn Preparatory School; Reverend Andrew L. Bouwhuis, S.J., Librarian, Canisius College, Buffalo, New York; Reverend David Nugent, S.J., Former Rector, Woodstock College, and the Woodstock Faculty, particularly Reverend Francis X. Peirce, S.J., Professor of Sacred Scripture, and Reverend Daniel J. M. Callahan, S.J., Professor of Sacramental Theology; Reverend Leo Weber, S.J., Instructor of Tertiaries, Our Lady of Martyrs' Tertiarieship, Auriesville, New York; Reverend J. Harding Fisher, S.J., Rector, Fordham University, New York City; Reverend Gerald Walsh, S.J., Editor of *Thought*.

## NOTICE

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Reprints of *An Annotated Spiritual Reading List* will be available at fifteen cents per single copy; orders of ten copies or more, ten cents per copy.

Address

THE LIBRARY  
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## MARYWOOD INSTITUTE

The Marywood College department of librarianship will sponsor a two-day institute on secondary school libraries, February twenty-second and twenty-third. The theme of the four general sessions will be "The Library Centered School".

The purpose of the conferences is to implement the secondary school library movement in the area included in the Scranton diocese. Supervisors, principals and librarians of the diocesan high schools will attend, and invitations to take part will be extended to librarians from public schools and public libraries.

The program includes four sessions each developing one particular phase of the school library movement. The main address at each session will be followed by a panel discussion of the topic. Discussion chairmen will be: Eugene P. Willing, librarian at the University of Scranton; Reverend John Maher, superintendent of Catholic schools in Scranton; Reverend Aloysius J. Miller, S.J., chairman of the Scranton Unit of the Catholic Library Association, and Alice Louise LeFevre, director of librarianship at Western Teachers' College, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

The principal speakers include: Mary Peacock Douglas, supervisor of school libraries for the Department of Public Instruction, Raleigh, N. C. Topic: "The Supervisor and the Secondary School Library"; Monsignor Joseph L. O'Brien, principal of Bishop England High School, Charleston, N. C. Topic: "The Principal's Evaluation of His School Library"; Sister M. St. Ann, S.S.S.J., St. Joseph's Academy, Cleveland, Ohio. Topic: "Relation of the School Library to the Faculty"; "Grace W. Estes, librarian of the Osterhout Free Library, Wilkes-Barre. Topic: "The Public Library Serves the School Library".



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## The Magazine in the Modern World

By LUCY MURPHY, Librarian,  
Canisius High School, Buffalo, New York

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That famous versatile Celt, Canon Sheehan, in his delightful *Under the Cedars and the Stars*, wrote that the great malady of the twentieth century is ennui, which results in the eternal striving after something novel and a weariness that encompasses the soul of man because of the lack of sufficient diversion.

How true are his words today. Most people are so absorbed in striving for variety that they lose sight of one source of pleasure which is a universal heritage—the pleasure of reading. It is so easy now to visualize the time when reading was practically unknown; when the poems of Homer were brought to the knowledge of the people by rhapsodists or public reciters; the time when troubadours and bards did the broadcasting by tramping from palace to castle chanting the songs of the ages and spreading the current events of their world. It was not until the invention of movable type that medieval literature was read by the world at large.

The invention of movable type by Gutenberg radically changed not only the cultural but the whole economic, industrial, commercial, and social life of the majority of the habitants of the earth. That this invention has characterized our modern times is witnessed in the enormous output of printed matter. Modern civilization is based on printers ink and paper. Hence, the newsprint and paper

industries are today among the most important accessories of civilization and are essential to human progress. Today, the multiplicity of magazines, books and newspapers, and the translation of books into every tongue, have placed reading within the easy reach of all.

According to the survey made by the National Opinion Research Center, University of Denver, for the American Library Association and seventeen co-operating city libraries in the United States, more people consider reading their favorite recreation than choose any other single diversion. The majority of the public also prefer magazines and newspapers to books. Forty-one per cent of adults named reading as a favorite spare-time diversion. Of these, fifty-six per cent say they spend an hour a day or more reading magazines and newspapers, while twenty-two per cent say they spend that much time reading books.

It is also gleaned from the survey that people's interests vary to some extent according to their education, sex and age. Reading is listed as a favorite diversion of sixty-two per cent of the college group, forty-three per cent of the high school group, and only thirty-three per cent of the grade school group. Likewise, forty-one per cent of those with a college background—but only thirteen per cent of those who have not gone beyond the elementary school grades, spend at least an

hour a day reading books. But more than half of the persons in all three education groups spend an hour a day or more reading magazines and newspapers. Too, about the same proportion of men and of women like to spend their spare time reading; although there are significant differences in their reading tastes. Women tend to spend more time reading books than men do, while men spend a great deal more time than women reading magazines and newspapers. Twenty-one per cent of men interviewed, in contrast to fourteen per cent of the women, spend two hours a day or more reading magazines, and newspapers; persons forty years old and over spend somewhat less time than those under forty reading books and somewhat more time reading magazines and newspapers.

What is the reason for this non-reading habit or this attitude of complacency? It may be concluded that the average person, even the college graduate and research worker, is not aware of the great output of printed matter—books, newspapers and especially magazines: daily, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, bi-monthly, and annually—nor of the variety.

One of the chief factors for this indifference to reading is the fact that many articles and editorials are written in a vacuum and for the writer's own satisfaction. Literature, whether in book form or in magazines and newspapers, requires an audience for its fulfillment, making it, in its perfect expression, a co-operative act in which, however, the reader plays by far the most important part.

Another factor to consider is poor publicity on the part of the publisher of the better magazine. How often is a first class magazine mentioned on the radio,

either seriously or in jest, on a literary or quiz program? Yet the radio is a powerful means of promoting the best seller; and, moreover, the broadcast would at least reach the majority of the indifferent and non-reading groups.

For years the magazine has been regarded more or less by the publishers and others in the literary world as the step-child of literature. And yet, some of the best novels have made their debut in magazine form, as well as some of the most timely and valuable material on technical subjects and world affairs. It is a vital factor in current affairs and business of today. Too, rarely are magazines found or displayed for public use in places devoted to the book trade or in the bookshop of department stores. If so, they are generally out of the reader's and buyer's reach, and like Cinderella are found in some dark corner on the second or fifth floor of the establishment guarded by a clerk with a "keep hands off" attitude. No tired business man or rushed pedagog will wait for crowded elevators to take him hither and yon in a hunt for even a necessary magazine; neither will the business woman, socialite, nor common worker. To the writer's knowledge there are two department stores in Toronto and one in Chicago where magazines are displayed not only for the buyer but for those who wish to browse.

It appears that the first class magazine publisher is partly responsible for the small proportion of magazine readers especially among the women folk under the age of forty, and for that matter teenage boys. Is it because the publishers' economic security is obtained by advertisements?

There is, however, a final and important factor to be considered and that is

magazines in public libraries. Of course, magazines are available in public libraries. All large libraries have a periodical and magazine department where magazines may be borrowed for home use or read in the building. Often it is very difficult to obtain a favorite magazine at the public library. Library budgets are ever curtailed for such trivial things as magazines and newspapers. And many people are reluctant to enter a magazine or periodical department in a large library. A tremor runs up and down their spine. Their blood pressure, like the stock market barometer, rushes suddenly to a high or drops to a low. The atmosphere is forbidding. It terrifies them and they turn on their heels and leave. The room lacks a live or livable atmosphere. It reminds one of a funeral home prepared for Finnegan's wake. It is barren and cold except for an occasional water color or bright canvas, a loan from the National Art Institute. The magazines resemble pale corpses, some dressed in gray shrouds, others in a state of decay; all propped up in white cases lined against the cold walls. The chairs are anything but inviting for relaxation or for serious study; arranged in rows and occupied by old men, many of whom resemble mourners crooning their saddest strains over *Life*, *PM*, or *Better Homes*. Their fingers slowly turn the pages, the eyes stumble on a word but they are like wet sticks in a wind. Other swap stories for chaff and fun, until weary eyelids close over the *New Yorker*, *Modern Plastics*, *Good Housekeeping*, *Country Gentleman*, *Oil and Soap*, and *The New Republic*. Finally they are awakened by the shrill voice of the night guard—"Library will close in five minutes". The clock points to the hour. It is almost ten o'clock. The pages rustle and with feeble

steps the man in the faded gray suit gets up to leave, the others follow, mumbling to themselves, for there is no salve for a sore mind and bitter memory. Moreover, the lack of writing space drives away the student and research worker. Tables are few and that placard, "Reserved For Ladies Only" makes many hesitate to enter, for this must be the ladies' powder room!

Nevertheless, in this atomic age, the magazine is a potent factor, especially in the lives of the student, scholar and academic research worker. After all, magazines have a definite purpose—for help and enjoyment that is so necessary in this life. Why have a magazine or a magazine department unless the magazines may be used to advantage? Conditions such as we have described make it necessary to provide a large and well chosen collection of magazines in secondary schools, colleges and industrial plants, in order that the students and workers may have an opportunity to work out their problems in a more inviting atmosphere. Furthermore, it is an efficient school and college that correlate use of the library with their classroom activities. The same is true of the industrial plant and the business firm.

Some people are of the opinion that the magazine is by type and physical makeup meant to appeal to the individual subscriber and to people in general who wish to buy them for the satisfaction of possessing and enjoying a fresh clean "mag". It takes but a few handlings to make public library magazines ready for the waste paper bin. This opinion leads to the belief that the public library should not spend everybody's money on magazines. It is a somewhat narrow vision, for it is an efficient library that has an adequate magazine service for its patrons.

## STANDARDS

There are certain basic standards which must and do mark the better type magazines, not only because of their entertainment service, but also because of their educational potentialities.

First, there is eye appeal. The beauty that immediately attracts the eye. It is obvious that one of the missing elements in modern literature and art is beauty. The loss is no doubt the inevitable result of the modern division in the soul of man. Eric Gill tells us that "the instigator of beauty as the true and good is God Himself". Hence, the vision of eternal truth which every true minded person possesses can restore beauty to literature and art: the beauty that shines through the poetry of Dante, on the canvas of Da Vinci, and in every stone of Chartres.

Second: the kind of paper is an asset to a magazine. Since wood pulp in the form of paper enters into the life of every individual and every industry, the factor of main importance to all of us, is the quality of paper for reading. Paper made from wood pulp is the product of the last century. In 1865 the fibres obtained by cooking wood in sodium sulphate came into general use and various woods are now used. Sulphite pulp is the most expensive and very little of it is used for books, magazines and newspapers. About twenty per cent of ground wood pulp is contained in first class magazine stock. Hence, much of the present magazine paper is newsprint, which is nothing more than ground wood pulp. It lacks bleaching and bluing and contains very little sulphite. It is very irregular in text, and mottled in color. Cheap yellow paper gives the appearance of a cheap sheet. De-inked paper lacks the strength of virgin sulphite but gives opacity, bulk and

printing cushion. Furthermore, the less high bulk papers are also an annoyance because after a small amount of handling they come out of the binding and are seldom fit to be rebound.

Third: the size has much to do with the selection of a magazine. While certain type magazines are a *must* for school, college and public library use, awkward size often limits their usefulness. The same criterion may be applied to buying magazines for home use. People do not like to handle over-sized heavy books, and twelve months issues of a magazine become very heavy and cumbersome when bound together. Size often creates a binding problem. So does the magazine which changes its title and size three times within a year. Future use is limited because it is very difficult to bind such material. Even the magazine which changes but once in a year presents a problem. The standard size for most magazines is 10 x 3. It is a practical size. It is more easily read and is convenient to handle and bind.

Fourth: typography is another important factor from the standpoint of reader benefit and comfort. The type face is often not well spaced, lines are crowded, design below the center of balance and press work very poor. The chief reason, no doubt, for this condition is that some magazines are merely money making vehicles for the publishers who are not interested or have nothing in common with art and adaptability.

The development of type face is an interesting study and a necessary study for it has to do with more than just the designing of letters. Type faces must be and are being developed for the benefit of the most delicate organ of the human



body, the eye. Many changes have occurred since the early type faces of those who were favored by the Renaissance scholars, down to the most original of the twentieth century designers, the late Eric Gill, whose successful book type "Perpetua" reveals an artist's fresh solution to the old problem of letter form. It is an answer to the prayer of engravers and readers as well. Eric Gill has made reading matter a vision of delight.

Fifth: sometimes it is impossible and sometimes it is not worth while to express an idea in words alone. Illustrations enable the writer to avoid tedious descriptions. Apart from this advantage, they add to the appeal of the magazine. They acquaint the reader with certain refinements, color techniques and other artistic elements. They also have a commercial value, because they help to insure economic security for the publishers. This is true in cases where advertising matter comprises three-fourths of the magazine content.

"Ads" and illustrations should not be considered merely as a means of making money for the artist, advertiser and publishers, and as having nothing in common with art. Too much of modern art and advertising is concerned wholly with the scars and sores of humanity: the nightmare world of Dali, Cherico and Epstein parodies of the human form and the discords of Shostakovich. Just as stale water is repugnant to our bodies, so also stale, used-up, and inadequate forms in art are inimical to the so-called progressively striving spirit. They do not refresh, nor do they rejoice, for they miss the true function of art which is to portray beauty, truth and goodness.

There are publications, even to the fore, which fit the classification of the

comics, with their startling, demoralizing covers and advertisements. They defeat their purpose. For example, the pin-up girl in the nude is not an appropriate cover design for an aero magazine, nor is it a proper illustration for the manufacture of gliders and propellers. More in keeping with the text and quality of the publication would be a fulmar, bird or butterfly. Men and teen-age boys take great pleasure in the advertisements and illustrations of *Popular Mechanics*, *Popular Science*, and *Young America* because they are honest and impart much information in the "ads" which appeal to their way of thinking and doing more than many of the editorials and articles.

Usually there should be simplicity in the arrangement of text, illustrations and advertisements. This is effected by giving careful attention to layout, adjustment space, and the concentrated pictorial treatment, as well as to the beauty of typography. Articles should be well written, sometimes terse, sometimes slightly humorous, interesting in style and timely. Behind them the reader should be able to sense the keen smiling eyes, the alert, interested and wholesome mind of writer and artist, as well as their vitalizing personalities. Well written articles set in readable type on quality paper breathe an air of refinement and usefulness which very often determines the popularity of the magazine.

#### TECHNICAL MAGAZINES

Since we are living in a technical and scientific age, certain scientific and technical concepts and relationships are inherently difficult to grasp; others are inherently easy; all can be made needlessly difficult by improper presentation. Technical information can be presented as a string of facts, as a concentrated sum-



mary, or in literary form. The information should be accurate, the language clear and convincing, the style conforming to certain well-defined but generally accepted standards, and all parts of the subject matter interrelated to form an organic whole, which is something more than their total. Then, we will have workable technical literature which is so vital today.

Many advances have been made under the duress of war, almost under the mandate of necessity. One of the potent accomplishments of the war years is the enormous output of technical literature. It has become a literature of major importance.

In the old days, the workman looked down on books and reading matter as an aid to his trade or occupation. In fact, very little material was printed on technical and industrial subjects. Today all is changed. The age of trade secrets is over. The new worker surrounds himself with all kinds of technical literature. The reason is obvious; he knows that his future depends upon it. Today man depends for a living not only upon his individual trade or occupation, but also upon the fruits produced by men of all other occupations working together to benefit civilization. Words enable the gears of all trades to mesh. Hence, the sharing of the printed word means co-operative efficiency for the good of all. Before laboratory work takes form, a great deal of desk research must be done. Technical literature must be combed thoroughly to establish a blue print to supply the most efficient test method and to prevent duplication of work.

To co-ordinate up-to-date theory and laboratory work, there are many excellent technical publications in the United

States which rank in volume and quality of material with some of the most important publications of their kind in the world. They are of wide variety and usually contain articles devoted to the important scientific and technical subjects of the day. The articles and editorials are always interestingly written. Good ideas are not smothered under a blanket of words, nor lost in the confusion of unnecessary cartoons and illustrations. There are a few, however, that are smeared with wisecracks and jibes that defeat their purpose.

Of course, it cannot be expected, even in technical literature, that the articles in an American publication will be as serious as those in the same type English publication, although the latter are not lacking in humor. Humor is essential. It is needed for dynamic relaxation which is associated with normal and natural function of body and mind. The person who cannot see the humorous side lacks a marvelous gift. Too, the English and Canadian journals rise to effects of great beauty. Though the Canadian publications have an English flavor, they contain a dash of American commercialism. However, the articles and editorials are scholarly written and to the point. The format, paper and size are about the same as similar journals published in the States.

Now with the reconversion from wartime activities and veteran rehabilitation, an increasingly heavy load of academic research work will be thrown on school, college, industrial and public libraries. It is true that the greater part of this burden will fall on public libraries; that industrial libraries will do their share in reconversion, and school and university libraries will contribute to a lesser degree in both fields. However, all libraries face

the immense job of training another army of workers. For in the words of President Truman, "No nation can maintain a position of leadership in the world today unless it develops to the full its scientific and technical resources. No government adequately meets its responsibilities unless it generously and intelligently supports and encourages the work of science in university, in industry and in its own laboratories". Hence, technology is coming into its own and much that has to do with the country's future is in the hands of librarians, and in the library's expanding periodical stocks which will meet the demand of the worker-reader. This may seem like a rather broad coverage, but truly libraries have before them a wonderful opportunity which is at the same time a grave responsibility.

And so in this age of paper and ink, the person who does not read, simply does not know. The cold calculating Francis Bacon knew what he was talking about when he wrote: "Reading maketh a full man", and that "if a man read little he had need have much cunning to seem to know what he doth not".

It is more or less a pity that women do not read more technical literature, for the tradition behind some of the technical magazines is romance and adventure. Many are of general interest, covering not only scientific matter, but world affairs and up-to-the-minute news. The woman who reads this literature will find pleasure and profit. She will learn something about the vitreous material known as "porcelain enamel" which is put to varied use in the home; the romance of baking powder, sour dough and wild yeast. She may be startled to know that the first to use color on fingernails were not women but men, warriors of ancient

UR of Chaldean Babylonia. When Chaldean warriors prepared for battle, they devoted several hours to having their hair lacquered, nails manicured, and lips colored the same shade. Men of high degree preferred black. For those who are interested in the origin of their pre-war felt hat, the legend of Saint Feutre is delightfully told in *Oil Power*, a magazine of industrial romances. These are but few of the many interesting things found in the technical magazines.

Besides magazines of a technical nature, there are general magazines which fit into several categories. There is the magazine with no more definite purpose than to entertain, which is in itself excellent. However, that quality of excellence is soiled by being smeared with choice bits of lascivious mysticism, atheism, and immorality, subtly worked into stories by robbing them of the beauty of motive, movement, and characterization, sacrificing truth for an epigram, and idealism for wit. Pages are devoted to the frankness of André Gide, rejecting the idea that life shall be subject to any kind of control. The bogus masculinity of Hemingway, the neurotic obscurities of Spengler, Maugham and MacNeice, the sewer gribbings of Faulkner and Miller, the false contortions of Sholem Asch, the terrifying world of Erskine Caldwell, the Chicago of James Farrell, the sophisticated baby talk of Gertrude Stein and the tarnished technique of Dorothy Parker, all masquerade in the stories that are interspersed with articles of a truly brilliant nature, dealing with political, economic and current events.

In this general classification there are many women's magazines whose specialty is light, entertaining fiction, generally well written and, generally speaking, of good

moral standard. Many of these are household magazines which not only help build castles of romance and reality, but also tell how to be well fed. This is important, for the body must be fed regularly and with wholesome, nourishing food, just as the mind must be fed with a high quality of reading matter. However, many a good salad recipe or cookie dough is contaminated with a sprinkling of lust and sensuality, in the form of garish entertainment.

Magazines for the teaching profession contain purely pedagogical material designed to supply teachers with much needed classroom projects. Some are written purely from the teaching angle and in a very condensed manner. Others strive at being too "high brow" and self confident, oftentimes underestimating the capacity of the reader rather than emphasizing quality in all things. None the less, many parents will find them useful in connection with Parent Teacher activities. Also in this group of magazines are the activities, vocational, and school or student magazines, all of which should command good literary talent and beauty in art work, action and authenticity as well. In fact, the school magazine is a natural concomitant of creative and practical composition. It contributes to the life of the school as a whole. Schools have been built around the school magazine which serves as the correlating heart of the institution, pumping the life blood of support and enthusiasm into every activity.

Enthusiasm should mount in the selection of the sports magazine. Its pages are given to wholesome thoughts about the great outdoors and the animal kingdom. They are a refreshing group. There are

no triangle affairs, divorces and suicides to be brilliantly displayed. Not all of them are well written; nevertheless, they offer wholesome entertainment and invite a love for nature and true sportsmanship.

Organization magazines issued by various societies and industries are planned to appeal exclusively to members. However, many of them offer general information which may be read for pleasure and profit by non-members.

Last but not least are the religious magazines offering spiritual relaxation. This group presents a wide variety; if one may borrow the slogan of a famous mercantile house, there are "fifty-seven varieties". This list certainly proves that there is a "striving after something novel". Some are excellent for spiritual relaxation and the awakening of an appreciative understanding of beauty, truth and goodness. Others are lacking this true qualification and are nothing more than clever sheets of bigotry against rival sects. All that is needed is a match to set the spark against the four freedoms under the veil of religion; others again are mere devices of propaganda. Ever so many of them are poorly written, with unappealing format and deceptive with threats of prejudice cleverly woven into the text. Unfortunately this condition exists between the lines of many of our Catholic magazines. They lack the beauty of the true and the good. As Eric Gill has told us: "Beauty is a union of the true and the good". The great words must be the inspiring guide in all literature. You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free. To be free is to know and to be well informed.

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## News and Notes

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### CATHOLIC SUPPLEMENT TO SHAW

The future plans for the *Catholic Supplement to the Shaw List of Books for College Libraries* were discussed during the first week of February in Washington, D. C., when Miss Julia Killian of the College of Saint Elizabeth visited the home of Mrs. Anne Cieri Hughes, formerly on the staff of Catholic University Library School. Miss Killian had previously met with Mr. William Gillard of Saint John University in New York.

The completion of the list has been delayed since 1943 because of the onset of the war, which brought about a shortage of professional and clerical help. Miss Killian has recently returned from spending eighteen months in India as an American Red Cross Club Director. In 1943 Mrs. Hughes resigned her library work for marriage and has devoted all her time since to her home and two daughters.

It can be stated definitely that work is being resumed on the project and that promising but tentative plans have been made for the future.

### AMONG CATHOLIC LIBRARY SCHOOL ALUMNAE

Miss Bernice Finnegan, army librarian at Schick General Hospital, Clinton, Iowa, has been presented with a War Department citation for outstanding performance of duty.

The citation signed by Lt. Gen. Brehon Sommervell, commanding general of the

army service forces, reads: "For exceptional resourcefulness, ingenuity and ability in assembling and promoting circulation of 13,000 professional, technical, and recreational volumes of literary works, and for extension of complete library service to departments, patients and personnel of Schick General Hospital to the great improvement of morale."

Miss Finnegan is a graduate of The College of St. Catherine and of the Library School. She was librarian of the Public Library of Sauk Center, Minnesota, when in June, 1941, she joined the armed forces. Since then, she has served as army librarian at several posts throughout the Seventh Service Command.

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Miss Mary Barrett, a graduate of Marywood College, Scranton, Pennsylvania, has been named post librarian at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. Miss Barrett was recently elected secretary of the New Jersey Library Association.

Miss Ann Finan, Marywood 1944, has been elected secretary of the Maryland Library Association.

### BRUCE FELLOWSHIPS

To stimulate and encourage lay Catholic writing, three annual fellowships in fiction and one in biography have been established by the Bruce Publishing Company, Milwaukee. Announcement of the opening of competition for this year's grants has been made by Frank Bruce, Sr., Publisher.



One of the first positive attempts of this kind to be tried, in the Catholic field, formal announcement was intentionally made during Catholic Press Month, as it was in definite keeping with the spirit of the observance. The fellowships constitute an effort "to meet more adequately the need for good novels and biographies among a growing number of Catholic readers; and at the same time, to encourage lay Catholic authors to write for publication".

Each fellowship will carry with it an endowment of \$1,200 payable in twelve monthly installments. One half of this sum, \$600, will be an outright grant. The other \$600 will be an advance against royalties.

The fellowship will be awarded on the basis of sample chapters and a complete synopsis. A committee selected by the company from its editorial staff and associates will read and judge the merit of all manuscripts.

Any lay person of the Catholic faith, with the exception of the Bruce staff and authors already on the Bruce list, is eligible for the fellowships. One year after the last fellowship is granted a new series will begin. Announcements will be made of grants as they are made.

Candidates who submit material which does not win a fellowship but which has real promise will be considered for publication in a regular way.

Further information on the regulations governing the fellowships is obtainable from the company.

#### A.L.A. CONFERENCE

June 16 through June 23 has been selected as the date for the sixty-fifth Annual Conference of the American Library Association, to be held in Buffalo, New

York. No hotel will be chosen as conference headquarters. Offices will be located and meetings will be held in the Municipal Auditorium, and an attendance of about 5,000 or more is expected.

#### MARSHALL INCLUDED IN A.L.A. LIST

*The World, the Flesh, and Father Smith*, by Bruce Marshall, is among the fifty books selected as the outstanding books of 1945 by vote of members of the American Library Association. The complete list is announced in the February 1st issue of the *Booklist*, the Association's book-reviewing magazine. The books were chosen as most worthy of the attention of the present day reader, though not necessarily of permanent value.

#### NEWS FROM PUBLISHERS

Joseph G. Schaller, Jr., has returned to P. J. Kenedy & Sons, where he resumed his position as Managing Editor of *The Official Catholic Directory*. Mr. Schaller is also a member of the Board of Directors of the firm. In 1942 he entered the Army and was assigned to the 104th Timberwolf Infantry Division as a combat correspondent with a Staff Sergeant's rating. The division saw action in Belgium, Holland and Germany. Mr. Schaller will also assist in the production of the new publications planned by the firm.

Louis Untermeyer, who has been with the Armed Services Editions for almost two years as editor, is now associated with Pocket Books, Inc., as a member of its editorial staff. Mr. Untermeyer is the editor of the recently published *Pocket Book of Story Poems* as well as Simon and Schuster's *Treasury of Great Poems* and various anthologies published by Harcourt, Brace and Company.

## FILMS FOR LATIN AMERICA

Encyclopaedia Britannica Films are now available in Spanish and Portuguese for use in Latin American schools. Robert H. Kulka, special representative of Encyclopaedia Britannica Films, Inc., has just returned to the United States after having completed a ten-month tour of virtually every South American country, during which he consulted with Latin American educators and governments on the use of classroom teaching films.

Because of a serious lack of trained teachers, Kulka predicts that Latin America will take hold of visual education more rapidly than the United States. He believes that if we retain an idealistic concept toward visual education and do not make classroom films a "big business", visual education will have a great future there.

## JESUITS IN EUROPE

More than \$12,000,000 will be needed for Jesuit relief and the rehabilitation of Jesuit Institutions destroyed in war torn Europe according to Father Bernard R. Hubbard, S.J., "The Glacier Priest", who addressed the National Conference of representatives of American Jesuit Provinces in Chicago. The Alaskan explorer recently returned from a survey of Germany, Austria, France, Italy and other countries in the war zone in the interests of the Jesuit Order, told the delegates that "unless food, clothing and medicines are provided immediately, we may expect dire consequences".

## SCRANTON UNIT

A business meeting of the Scranton Diocesan Unit of the Catholic Library Association will be held Saturday morning, February 23, at Marywood College

in conjunction with the Institute on Secondary School Libraries which is being sponsored by the department of librarianship. Reverend A. J. Miller, S.J., is chairman of the Unit.

## OFFICE OF EDUCATION REPORT

Copies of the annual report of the U. S. Office of Education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1945, are available from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., at fifteen cents each.

The report gives a brief panoramic review of the services and activities of the Office under the plan of organization existing during the final wartime year. It reflects the far-reaching relation of the war to the activities of the Office of Education and of the Nation's schools, school systems, and colleges.

A considerable part of the report is taken up by an account of the activities of the Vocational Division during the fiscal year. Other sections of the report are given over to activities of the Office in the fields of school administration, statistics, instructional services, physical education, library service, inter-Americana educational relations, educational uses of radio, visual aids, services for the blind, and comparative education.

More than fifty-six bulletins, pamphlets, leaflets, etc., and thirty-five different issues of periodicals were published by the Office during the fiscal year.

## REPRINTS AVAILABLE

The article on the Index of Forbidden Books by Reverend Edward Mahoney, O.S.B., which was published in the January issue of *The Catholic Library World* has been reprinted. Copies are available at ten cents each.

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## Book Reviews

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*Library resources of the University of North Carolina.* Edited with a foreword by Charles E. Rush. University of North Carolina Press, 1945. 264p. \$3.50.

On the occasion of its Sesquicentennial Celebration the University of North Carolina took occasion to publish a survey of its history, its resources and its activities; in some seventeen monographs, directed by Louis R. Wilson, a rather complete and detailed picture of the University is thus presented to form not only a detailed history of the past but to indicate the direction of its activities for the present and the future. Of these publications *Library Resources* constitutes one of the monographs, edited with a foreword by the Director of Libraries, Charles E. Rush.

The sub-title of the work, designating it as a "summary" of facilities for study and research", is very apt in this case. Louis Wilson, Librarian at North Carolina from 1901-1932, in a chapter on "The Role of the Library in the Advancement of Scholarship", and Charles E. Rush, the present Librarian, in another chapter on "Co-operative Facilities in Research and Service" make the most significant contributions to the book in showing how the library is an integral part of the study and research facilities in any institution. For it was largely in the period from 1901 to the present that progressive libraries assumed the role in university life which they hold today; it was in this period, too, that North Carolina worked out that splendid system of co-operative effort with neighboring Duke University and later with Tulane which has attracted the notice and the admiration of the whole library world. The story of this accomplishment gains much as told in the words of the one who inaugurated it. North Carolina has been blessed with many outstanding figures during its one hundred and fifty years but singularly so in the case of its librarians during the present century; for all of them labored diligently

to show what constitutes the role of the library in a modern university. And they have demonstrated to many of their doubting confreres that the aid and influence of the library can be well extended far beyond the limits of the campus.

Other chapters follow, largely from members of the professional staff, on Collections and Foundations, Bibliography and Reference, Biology and Related Sciences, Fine Arts and Philosophy, Language and Literature, Physical Sciences, Social Science and Library Extension. These chapters deal largely with listings of the holdings of the library plus the designation of notable gaps, frank appraisals of the adequacy of the collections, and often suggestions for future development. In these lists one notes the special collections of which North Carolina is justly proud: the Hill Collection of North Caroliniana, the Southern Collection, the Hanes Foundation for the Study and Origin and Development of the Book and the Collection of Latin-American materials.

While points of information are inevitably duplicated in books of this sort, it is not done to excess. All in all, the book is a very valuable and creditable co-operative work. It is especially recommended to those interested in college and university libraries because it offers a very detailed picture of a very successful effort.

REVEREND FRANCIS A. MULLIN,  
*The Catholic University of America*

*Buying list of books for small libraries.* Seventh edition. Edited by Marion Horton. American Library Association, 1945. 134p.

Like the sixth edition of 1940, this list consists of approximately 1800 titles, some 300 of which are juveniles. Adult and juvenile titles are classified separately, with a single author-title-subject index to both. According to the Foreword, the selection represents "those books which a newly established library would consider for first purchase . . . books of interest to today's reading public, books which have been read with

enthusiasm by library patrons, and which are likely to be of permanent value". It is carefully explained that the compilation is not a list of the best books, nor a list of books that should be bought by all libraries.

Though standard books are not neglected, first emphasis goes to works published since 1940. Hence, there are more recent editions of some books noted in the 1940 listing; many authors have been superseded by later writers on their subjects; some subjects have shifted their relative distribution to conform more closely with changes in national interest. An occasional sub-topic has disappeared (cf. *hydroponics*.) Thus ten of the reference works recommended in 1940 have been dropped from the 1945 volume. Thirteen of the librarians' aids are no longer important by the same criterion (though most of them and others as well are recommended for the librarian's professional shelf in *The Small Public Library* by Moshier and Lefevre). Eight works are new to the reference section; twelve titles among the librarians' aids were published in the 1940's.

Similarly, twenty-six of the thirty-five philosophy titles recommended in 1940 drop out of sight by 1945. Their places are taken by twenty-five newer titles whose distribution is such that over one-third of the 100's are now devoted to child psychology.

Library patrons' enthusiasm for religious reading would seem to have increased by fifty per cent in the last five years, since the number of books listed has grown that much. Apparently, also, the interest in physics during the war far exceeded that in chemistry: the former group tripled in number, the latter decreased to less than half of the 1940 figure. Sports and games, too, are cut to less than half their former number; flower gardening to almost one-third; French and Greek literature give place altogether to volumes on Chinese, Jewish and Russian letters.

Catholic writers and specifically Catholic subjects are not widely represented. They include: the Douai Bible and Father Knox's translation of the New Testament, *Philosophy for the Millions*, the *Book of Saints*, *Faith of Our Fathers*, *Great Catholics*, *Keys of the Kingdom*, and *Song of Bernadette*.

Over a score of well-selected books on World War II bring that subject up to January, 1945. As succeeding months widen the interval since V-J Day, librarians will naturally find less and

less help in this section. Then there are occasional titles like the *Nut Growers' Handbook* and *Some of My Best Friends Are Soldiers* which open up the whole question of first purchase, readers' enthusiasm and permanent value. Fortunately, the latter titles are rare; rather, the librarian is struck by the number of titles he has read with enjoyment, those he would like to read, and those he could have used to answer patrons' requests successfully.

In the brief description of aims, standards and criteria noted in the Foreword, mention is made of the desirability of including books, pamphlets, magazines, newspapers, films and recordings in the library collection. Since this is a buying list of books, no suggestions are offered for selecting items in other media. However, a subject list calls attention to societies, departments, bureaus, etc., which publish free and inexpensive materials on various topics. Walter's *Periodicals for Small Libraries*, Kolodin's *Guide to Recorded Music*, and Ireland's *Pamphlet File* indicate a means of finding out about items in these media. But Ireland's *Picture File* has been dropped; there is no complete index to recordings, and none at all for non-musical records; and none at all for films.

Similarly, the recommendation is made that romances, westerns and mysteries be purchased in reprint editions, and in many cases (not all) individual novels are so listed. For those which are not, as well as for the other titles the librarian will buy, Orton's *Catalog of Reprints in Series* would prove helpful and might well have been listed.

In the main, the *List's* chief usefulness continues to be that of a check upon the small public library's collection, calling attention to readable titles which may have been overlooked, and to others which merit replacement as original copies wear out.

HELEN L. BUTLER, Ph.D.,  
Marywood College.

*A concise bibliography for students of English.* Second edition. By Arthur G. Kennedy. California, Stanford University Press, 1945. 161p. \$1.50.

Though this bibliography is compiled by a philologist and was originally designed as a tool for a graduate course in bibliography and methods, in its revised and amplified form it is an excellent

(Continued on page 160)



# New Books

## BOOK CLUB SELECTIONS

### Catholic Children's Book Club— February

**Group P—Picture-book age; boys and girls**

**BROWN, MARGARET WISE.** *The little fisher man; a fish story.* Illustrated by Dahloz Ipcar. William R. Scott, 1945. 36p. \$1.50.

The catching of deep-sea fish is humorously pictured in four pleasing colors for young readers. The contrast will appeal to all and children who have learned to read will enjoy the repetition of the easy text.

**Group A—Boys and Girls, 8-12 years**

**UNDSET, SIGRID, Ed. and Comp.** *True and untrue, and other Norse tales.* Illustrated by Frederick T. Chapman. Alfred Knopf, 1945. 253p. \$2.50.

This collection of Norse fairy tales, attractively illustrated in black and white, was selected and adapted for American readers by the noted Norwegian novelist. Selected for boys and girls, ages eight to twelve, it will entertain others as well.

**Group B—Boys 12-15 years**

**DOWNNEY, FAIRFAX.** *Army mule.* Illustrated by Paul Brown. Dodd, Mead & Company, 1945. 192p. \$2.00.

In the days before trucks and jeeps were important army adjuncts, mules did much of the transport work. Proverbio, the mule, saved from destruction by the Franciscan Fray Luis, finally becomes leader of a pack train supplying American soldiers who were fighting the Apaches back in the 1870's.

**Group C—Girls 12-15 years**

**MALVERN, GLADYS.** *Jonica's Island.* Julian Messner, 1945. \$2.00.

The author is remembered for her previous work, *Good troopers all*, which appeared last summer. The present book is equally entertaining for girls of junior high school age.

### Biography

**HABIG, MARION A.** *Heroes of the Cross.* St. Anthony Guild Press, 1945. 254p. \$2.50.

In 1941 the Hierarchy of the United States sent a petition to the Sacred Congregation of

Rites for the canonization of the martyrs of the United States of America. Father Habig was a member of the commission of priests who worked under the direction of Bishop Gannon preparing the historical data to accompany the petition. These historical studies are embodied in the present book, which is an enlargement and revision of the original pamphlet on the Franciscan Martyrs of North America. Ten new chapters have been appended, including a complete martyrology of the United States. An important reference book, carefully prepared and well documented.

Richard J. Neu, S.J.

### Fiction

**EDWARDS, E. J., S.V.D.** *This night called day.* Bruce, 1945. 220p. \$2.00.

A story concerned with the problem of suffering and resignation. Dr. Wade had been plunged from unmarred happiness to hopeless despair by the untimely death of his wife. The advice and example of an invalid priest gradually restore consolation and hope to his world and an appreciation of immortality.

### History

**BAYARD, RALPH, C.M.** *Lone Star vanguard. The Catholic re-occupation of Texas.* St. Louis, Mo., The Vincentian Press, 1945. 453p.

The work of Father John Timon, American-born, and his Vincentian associates constitutes this saga of revivifying the Faith in the Texan republic. Anyone not thoroughly familiar with Texas history might wish for a brief tabular appendix of it; but most of the social and economic and political background requisite is provided in the text. Splendid bibliography and detailed index supplement the vigorous scholarship here evident.

Sister Mary David, S.S.N.D.

### Philosophy

**KNOX, RONALD.** *God and the atom.* Sheed and Ward, 1946. 166p. \$2.00.

Most of us think of the atomic bomb in terms of Hiroshima or Nagasaki, or what once was Hiroshima and Nagasaki. But, as Monsignor Knox warns us in this brilliant essay, the destruction wrought upon those two unfortunate cities is a symbol only of the destruction that atomic power might visit upon the spirit or man. Characteristically, he is not interested in controlling the bomb but in controlling ourselves lest this new power that

has been released, like other scientific achievements of the past, be a stumbling block to faith, to hope and to human honor.

Charles Denecke, S.J.

### Religion

HUSSLEIN, JOSEPH, S.J., coauthor. *The golden years*. Bruce, 1945. 197p. \$1.75.

Meditations on the hidden life of Our Lord gathered from the journal of a woman of rich literary background and personal skill of expression enlightened by a deep religious fervor and high intellectual appreciation of Christian dogma. Father Husslein has admirably filled in gaps in the original document and has organized the material which he presents with highest recommendation to all who would reflect on the beauty and virtue of the Holy Family.

HENNRICH, KILIAN J., O.F.M.Cap. *Forming a Christian mentality*. Joseph F. Wagner, Inc., 1945. 288p.

Written as a companion to the author's *Youth guidance*, the purpose and content of this book are indicated by the sub-title. He begins with the evident fact that the present evils of the world are predominantly mental. To offset them it is our task to develop a truly Christian mentality in our youth. The matter falls naturally under two headings, Faith and Worship. Two bibliographies, one selected and annotated, the other supplementary.

Richard J. Neu, S.J.

### Sociology

CRONIN, JOHN F. *Economic analysis and problems*. American Book Co., 1945. \$3.75.

"... Father Cronin has done a very creditable job of summarizing the best of latter-day economic theory within the framework of a rounded and realistic description of existing economic practices.

"... Father Cronin owes us another book which will tie up some of the loose ends of the present text and answer some of the important questions which are implicit in his present treatment of the subject."

Best Sellers 5:191

WARD, LEO R., C.S.C., Ed. *United for freedom*. Bruce, 1945. 264p. \$2.50.

A symposium in which sixteen authors contribute toward an explanation of the importance of co-operatives in establishing a better economic order. Includes a letter by Pope Pius XI to the Bishop of Antigonish, Nova Scotia.

### BOOK REVIEWS

(Continued from page 158)

general guide and a concise reference work for the student of English literature. Mr. Kennedy has listed the essential guides and treatises on the

various subjects connected with the field. Each section, headed by available bibliography guides, gives an historical perspective of its subject by presenting the titles in chronological order. In addition to the usual technical divisions, there are entries arranged under English Literature: Periods; English Literature: Forms and Types; and the Study and Teaching of English. Convenient subject headings with cross references conclude each section and the entire work is indexed according to subject, author and editor.

A. J. MILLER, S.J.,  
University of Scranton.

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